from covered transactions because of an exclusion or disqualification.

§145.965 Legal proceedings.

Legal proceedings means any criminal proceeding or any civil judicial proceeding, including a proceeding under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. 3801–3812), to which the Federal Government or a State or local government or quasi-governmental authority is a party. The term also includes appeals from those proceedings.

§145.970 Nonprocurement transaction.

- (a) Nonprocurement transaction means any transaction, regardless of type (except procurement contracts), including, but not limited to the following:
 - (1) Grants.
 - (2) Cooperative agreements.
 - (3) Scholarships.
 - (4) Fellowships.
 - (5) Contracts of assistance.
 - (6) Loans.
 - (7) Loan guarantees.
 - (8) Subsidies.
 - (9) Insurances
 - (10) Payments for specified uses.
 - (11) Donation agreements.
- (b) A nonprocurement transaction at any tier does not require the transfer of Federal funds.

§145.975 Notice.

Notice means a written communication served in person, sent by certified mail or its equivalent, or sent electronically by e-mail or facsimile. (See §145.615.)

§145.980 Participant.

Participant means any person who submits a proposal for or who enters into a covered transaction, including an agent or representative of a participant.

§145.985 Person.

Person means any individual, corporation, partnership, association, unit of government, or legal entity, however organized.

§145.990 Preponderance of the evidence.

Preponderance of the evidence means proof by information that, compared with information opposing it, leads to the conclusion that the fact at issue is more probably true than not.

§145.995 Principal.

Principal means—

- (a) An officer, director, owner, partner, principal investigator, or other person within a participant with management or supervisory responsibilities related to a covered transaction; or
- (b) A consultant or other person, whether or not employed by the participant or paid with Federal funds, who—
- (1) Is in a position to handle Federal funds:
- (2) Is in a position to influence or control the use of those funds; or,
- (3) Occupies a technical or professional position capable of substantially influencing the development or outcome of an activity required to perform the covered transaction.
- (c) Other examples of individuals who are principals in SBA covered transactions include:
 - (1) Principal investigators.
- (2) Securities brokers and dealers under the section 7(a) Loan, Certified Development Company (CDC) and Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) programs.
- (3) Applicant representatives under the section 7(a) Loan, Certified Development Company (CDC), Small Business Investment Company (SBIC), Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and section 7(j) programs.
- (4) Providers of professional services under section 7(a) Loan, Certified Development Company (CDC), Small Business Investment Company (SBIC), Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and section 7(j) programs.
- (5) Individuals that certify, authenticate or authorize billings.

§145.1000 Respondent.

Respondent means a person against whom an agency has initiated a debarment or suspension action.

§145.1005 State.

- (a) State means—
- (1) Any of the states of the United States;
- (2) The District of Columbia;
- (3) The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

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- (4) Any territory or possession of the United States; or
- (5) Any agency or instrumentality of a state.
- (b) For purposes of this part, *State* does not include institutions of higher education, hospitals, or units of local government.

§145.1010 Suspending official.

- (a) Suspending official means an agency official who is authorized to impose suspension. The suspending official is either:
 - (1) The agency head; or
- (2) An official designated by the agency head.
- (b) For SBA, the suspending official for financial assistance programs means the Assistant Administrator for Lender Oversight; for all other programs, the suspending official means the Assistant Administrator for Administration.

§145.1015 Suspension.

Suspension is an action taken by a suspending official under subpart G of this part that immediately prohibits a person from participating in covered transactions and transactions covered under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR chapter 1) for a temporary period, pending completion of an agency investigation and any judicial or administrative proceedings that may ensue. A person so excluded is suspended.

§145.1020 Voluntary exclusion or voluntarily excluded.

- (a) Voluntary exclusion means a person's agreement to be excluded under the terms of a settlement between the person and one or more agencies. Voluntary exclusion must have governmentwide effect.
- (b) *Voluntarily excluded* means the status of a person who has agreed to a voluntary exclusion.

Subpart J [Reserved]